



The FAIRWEATHER

VISITOR GUIDE



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Welcome to Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, one of the world's premier wilderness areas. From the high Fairweather peaks to deep sheltered fiords, Glacier Bay is known worldwide for its large, contiguous, intact ecosystems, still dominated by natural processes. Glacier Bay is also a living laboratory that provides unparalleled opportunities to observe and study life returning to once barren landscapes. Small plants cling to life in sterile environments and new species arrive to colonize the blank slate left by retreating glaciers.

Glacier Bay offers the chance to witness a dynamic new land still emerging from the ice age. Great geological and biological changes can be observed within a single lifetime. Unique among our national parks, Glacier Bay was established to embrace the process of change. Indeed, no two visits are ever the same. Furthermore, the park is significant as the ancestral homeland of the Native Tlingit people whose culture thrives and remains vibrant today.

As Superintendent, I hope that you'll take the opportunity to slow down and savor your Glacier Bay experience. Perhaps you will learn to see the world differently and gather a new appreciation for our national parks.

All of us who work here, whether rangers, scientists, administrators, work crews, volunteers, residents or partners, are linked by a shared appreciation and respect for one of the world's wildest places. We welcome your questions and comments and we appreciate your interest and help in caring for this extraordinary place. It is, after all, your national park.

Have a safe and wonderful experience.

Susan Boudreau

Susan L. Boudreau
Superintendent

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Fairweather

Produced and Designed by:



Park Coordinator: Tom VandenBerg

Contributors: Chris Gabriele, Ken Grant, Margaret Hazen, Melanie Heacox, Tania Lewis, Tim Marcella, Gus Martinez, Janet Neilson, Steven Schaller, Tom VandenBerg, and Jamie Womble.

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Exploring Bartlett Cove

If you just have a few hours...

Stop by the Visitor Center: On the second floor of the Glacier Bay Lodge you will find the National Park Service Information Desk. Open daily with a variety of exhibits and educational materials from Alaska Geographic for purchase.

Catch a film: The National Park Service shows several different films daily in the Auditorium.

Walk the Forest Loop Trail: Go on your own or with a ranger. Daily ranger-led walks meet in the lodge. See trail details, page 28.

Go for a beach walk: See trail details, page 29.

Take in an evening program: Join a ranger in the auditorium for a presentation about the park.

If you have a half day...

Hike to the Bartlett River: See trail details, page 28.

Rent a bike: Start at the Glacier Bay Lodge and pedal towards Gustavus.

Explore the intertidal zone at low tide.

Join a Morning Discovery Hike with a park ranger.

If you have a full day...

Hike to Bartlett Lake: See trail details, page 28.

Go for a paddle: There are several options for kayaking around Bartlett Cove. Take a guided kayak trip or rent your own from Glacier Bay Sea Kayaks.

Become a Junior Ranger: Kids can visit the ranger at the NPS Information Desk to pick up their free Junior Ranger Activity Book. See page 31 for details.



Get the Latest Schedule of Events

Please see the National Park Service Visitor Center Information Desk in the Glacier Bay Lodge, the bulletin board in front of the lodge, or the Visitor Information Station (VIS) near the public dock for updates, desk hours, and evening program topics.

Tribal House Project

The Hoonah Indian Association and National Park Service are working together to construct a replica Tlingit clan house, providing the Huna Tlingit with the first permanent clan house in their homeland since their villages were destroyed by an advancing glacier over 250 years ago. The most recent milestone was the completion and unveiling of the elaborately carved interior house screen. The spectacular carving will serve as the centerpiece of the clan house. Master carver Gordon Greenwald used a geographic motif in the 16x32 foot design. With crests and iconic symbols in relative geographic positions, the screen depicts the stories of the four Glacier Bay clans and their deep connection to their Glacier Bay homeland.

The screen is currently on display in nearby Hoonah, but will eventually serve as the interior centerpiece of the clan house when it is built on the shores of Bartlett Cove. Once completed, the structure will serve as an

interpretive center where visitors can learn about Tlingit culture and a place where Tlingit communities and organizations can provide cultural workshops on topics such as Native art, woodworking, weaving, song and dance, healthy living, and more.



Master Carver Gordon Greenwald unveiling the house screen.

Whale of a Display

Glacier Bay visitors will soon be able to get up-close and personal with an impressive full-sized humpback whale skeleton. There are only eighteen rearticulated humpback whale skeletons on display in the world, and this will be the second largest one!



Rendering of the new whale skeleton shelter, which should be in place by spring 2013.

In July 2001, a 46-foot adult female humpback whale was found dead at the mouth of Glacier Bay after having been struck by a cruise ship. The entire skeleton was collected, and over the intervening years many volunteers from the community, including high school and college students, have worked alongside Glacier Bay staff to retrieve, clean, and preserve the whale bones. A roofed, open-sided shelter to showcase this magnificent specimen is currently under construction in Bartlett Cove. The shelter will be located along the shoreline trail between the Glacier Bay Lodge and public dock. The design will complement the historic Mission 66 architecture of the Glacier Bay Lodge.

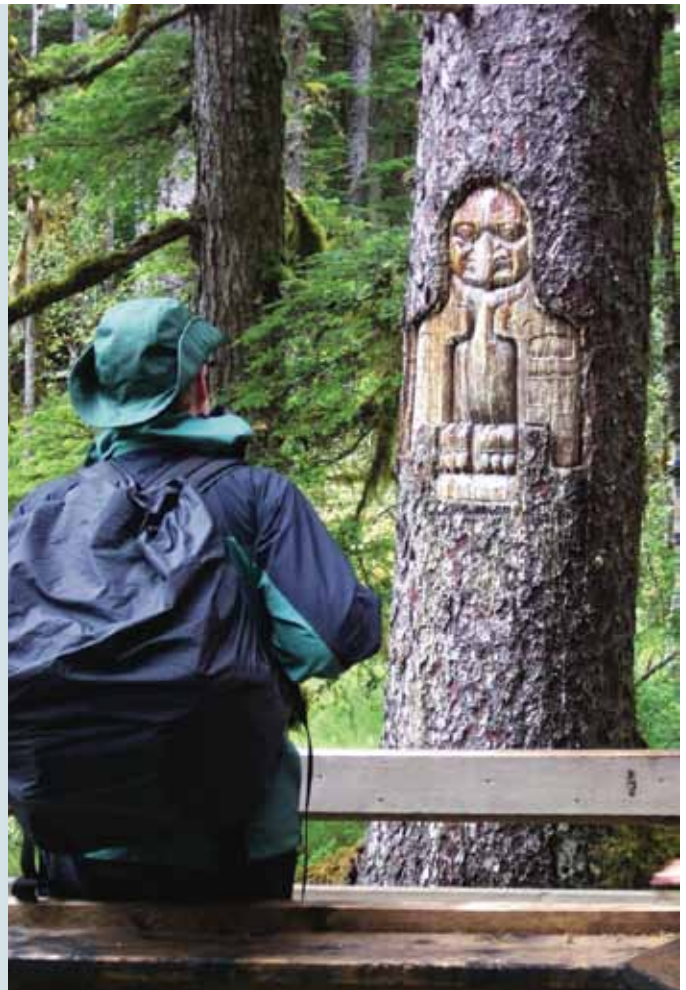
In fall of 2012, a team will begin to rearticulate the bones into a complete skeleton. Interpretive signs nearby will tell the life story of this individual whale, and provide an opportunity to learn about the species' life history and conservation threats to whales in general. Construction of the shelter will begin this summer and the whale skeleton should be in place by spring 2013. Stay tuned and follow along as years of work and planning pay off and this spectacular display becomes a reality.

Glacier Bay as Homeland

Imagine that you can hold Glacier Bay in the palm of your hand. It is smooth and round, about the size of a large egg. It is heavy, precious. Slowly you begin to peel back its layers, its meanings. The first layer, world heritage site, comes off. Next, you peel away the layer for the biosphere reserve. You are now looking at the layer for the national park and preserve. Gently you peel that away. Naked and vulnerable, wilderness trembles in your palm. As you marvel at the beauty, the fragility, something catches your eye. You realize that by holding the land up to the light just so, you can see another image distinct yet intangible as the morning mists. This new image reveals the essence of life for a group of people, the Huna Tlingit.

To the Huna Tlingit, Glacier Bay is not only the place where they once lived, hunted, fished, collected eggs and berries. It is the center from which they gain their identity as people—their spiritual homeland.

The modern village of Hoonah is in Port Frederick on Icy Strait. Traditionally, four Huna Tlingit clans occupied territories in and around Glacier Bay. When Glacier Bay became a national monument in 1925, its borders encompassed much of the traditional Huna Tlingit homeland. New federal laws severely curtailed Native activities within the monument boundaries. So began a painful period of Huna Tlingit and National Park Service relations.



You will find the Huna Tlingit presence in and around Bartlett Cove. The sea otter hunting canoe on display next to the Visitor Information Station was carved in the park in 1987 by a team of Native carvers. Look for two Tlingit trail markers carved into living spruce trees near Glacier Bay Lodge; one on the trail leading down to the dock from the lodge and the other along the Forest Loop Trail. These carvings serve as reminders of ancient ties to the land.

Ultimately, we will all carry within us slightly different versions of the essence that is Glacier Bay. We may guard it carefully. From time to time, we can take it out to hold in our palm, to admire and share with others. Carefully peeling back the layers of our experience, we will rediscover the wonders we found to be sacred. And if we hold it up to the light just right, it might reveal something more.



But time has brought some healing. In recent years, the National Park Service has maintained an open dialogue with the Huna Tlingit and has actively encouraged them to return to the park to carry out traditional activities that are compatible with current regulations, such as berry picking. The park has sponsored boat trips for Hoonah school children and elders to come into the bay so the youths may learn traditional ways of knowing in the very place that figures so prominently in their spiritual lives.

Glacier-Making Weather

Glacier Bay has a maritime climate, heavily influenced by ocean currents. The result is mild winter temperatures and cool summer temperatures near sea level. Summer visitors can expect highs between 50°-to-60° F (10°-15° C). Winter temperatures rarely drop into the single digits, with average nighttime lows in the mid-20s and highs in the upper-30s.



Bartlett Cove receives about 70-75 inches of precipitation annually. You may find yourself thinking it's all coming down during your visit. April, May, and June are usually the driest months of the year, while September and October tend to be the wettest. All this moisture helps to create the lush temperate rainforests of the lower bay.

Keep in mind, these are weather conditions at sea level. Up in the mountains, conditions are more severe with colder temperatures and more precipitation that takes the form of snow. It's all that snow falling year after year that goes into creating the magnificent glaciers we love to see.

What to Wear?

The weather in Glacier Bay can change quickly over the course of the day, especially if you are traveling into the bay. Dressing appropriately will enhance your trip by allowing you to stay out in the elements and make the most of wildlife and glacier viewing. Remember: it's usually cooler on the water and near glaciers.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

In 2009, Glacier Bay was honored with the EPA Environmental Leadership Award for its amazing recycling program. Over 95 percent of the park's solid waste is sorted and shipped to Juneau for processing. Aluminum, paper products, steel, and #1 and #2 plastics go on to recycling centers. Locally, food waste from the park and the lodge, wood chips and brush from downed trees and clearing are composted into topsoil for the community. Composted sewage sludge is used as fertilizer. Any glass you throw away in the park will be pulverized into small non-sharp particles and used to stabilize roadbeds.

Receptacles for campers, boaters, and other park users are located near the Visitor Information Station. Please separate trash before placing it in the appropriate bins. This initial separation helps make it possible for up to 65 percent of waste generated in day-to-day park operations to be recycled or reused.



How can you help?

Please separate your waste into the appropriate bins near the Visitor Information Station located by the public dock.

Thank you!



Tides

standing on the beach looking at mud flats stretching out for 100 yards and hours later the water is lapping at your toes. Or worse: one minute you've pulled your kayak up on shore so you can enjoy lunch, but you wake up 30 minutes later from your post-lunch nap to see your kayak floating away.

You hardly need to spend more than six hours in Bartlett Cove to realize that there is something interesting going on with the tides.

bulges on the side closest to the moon due to gravitational pull. The bulge on the opposite side of the Earth is due to centrifugal force.

The tidal fluctuations in Glacier Bay can be as high as 25 feet. This means that one moment you may be

these three celestial bodies are constantly in motion, the amount of gravitational pull varies and the tide levels change. Because it's closer, the moon has the strongest influence on the tides. Its gravitational attraction causes the water surrounding the Earth to bulge. It

There are usually two high and two low tides daily on the West Coast. The times for highs and lows shift about 50 minutes later on consequent days. This means if high tide is at 9:00 a.m. one day, it will be high at about 9:50 a.m. the next day, around 10:40 a.m. the next, and so on. Local conditions, such as topography, also influence the tides and the currents they generate. The entrance to Glacier Bay is narrow, yet a great deal of water must rush through that opening twice daily, creating currents in Sitakaday Narrows as strong as seven knots.

To see this incredible force in action, walk down to the water's edge about an hour after high or low tide. Fix your gaze on a shell or a piece of seaweed and watch how its proximity to the water's edge changes in just minutes. Be sure to keep that in mind when you decide to enjoy an after-lunch nap on your next paddling adventure.



“The Master Builder chose for a tool, not the thunder and lightning to rend and split asunder, not the stormy torrent nor the eroding rain, but the tender snowflake, noiselessly falling through unnumbered generations.”

— John Muir



Blue Ice, White Ice

If you’ve ever played with a prism in the sunlight, you know that natural light is made up of all the colors of the rainbow.

Each color of light has a specific wavelength and certain amount of energy. Colors such as red and yellow have long wavelengths and consequently low energy. But blue, with its short wavelengths, has high energy.

Glacier ice is made up of large, tightly packed ice crystals. When sunlight hits glacier ice, the ice acts like a prism and separates the light according to its wavelength. Low energy colors like red and yellow are absorbed by the ice. Blue has enough energy to reflect out to our eyes.

If the surface of the glacier ice becomes weathered or if the ice contains many air bubbles, the blue light becomes diffused. The ice appears white.

Rivers of Ice

A glacier is born high in the mountains, where the only precipitation that falls is snow, and the snow that falls does not melt. A slight depression on the mountainside catches this snow. Year after year, the snowflakes pile up. Soon the sheer weight of this vast accumulation presses down on itself. The snow compresses. The flakes change shape and fuse into ice. Eventually, the weight of the ice is too much for the depression to hold against gravity and the ice begins to flow downhill seeking equilibrium. Now that it’s moving, it’s a glacier.

Like a river, the glacier flows down the mountain choosing the path of least resistance. As it moves, it incorporates rocks into its lower layers. These acquired rocks grind away at the bedrock. In time, the glacial ice will carve deep valleys in the mountainside.

When the ice reaches lower, warmer elevations, it begins to melt. Eventually the loss through melting is greater than the supply of ice flowing down the mountain. The glacier ceases to make further progress, though the body of ice is still moving down the mountain. At this point, the glacier is like a one-way conveyor belt moving ice out of the mountains into the valleys.

Glaciologists have identified different types of glaciers based on their characteristics. For example, a glacier that remains confined within valley walls is a valley glacier. If it flows out of the valley and spreads out, it’s a piedmont glacier. If it simply drops out of the valley, it’s a hanging glacier. But the type of glacier most folks in Glacier Bay are interested in is the type that ends in the sea: the tidewater glacier.

Compared to glacial ice, seawater is warm and highly erosive. Waves and tides work away at the unstable glacier face, causing huge chunks to calve or break off into the ocean.

Barring significant climate changes, a glacier is in a constant state of renewal. New snow will continue to fall in the mountain basin to replace the snow that has compacted into ice and begun to flow downhill. The length of time it takes for a snowflake that falls in the mountains to emerge at the end, or terminus, of a glacier varies, depending on the speed at which the glacier is flowing. Scientists estimate ice you see at the face of the park’s glaciers to be around 200 years old.



The Ice Is Melting

The Earth’s climate is changing—and fast! Climate change is real, and the world will be different because of it. Scientists who study the Earth’s climate have documented warming temperatures in Alaska. Of the more than 100,000 glaciers in the state, 95% are currently thinning, stagnating, or retreating, and more importantly, the rate of thinning is increasing. Glacier Bay’s glaciers follow this trend. However, due to heavy snowfall in the Fairweather Mountains, Glacier Bay remains home to a few healthy and even advancing glaciers, a rarity in today’s world.

Glacial melting and a warming ocean (water expands when warmed) will contribute to sea level rise. Fortunately, though, Glacier Bay’s shorelines are unlikely to be inundated. As the park’s glaciers melt and remove their great weight from the land, the Earth’s crust will slowly “bounce upward” to compensate. This “isostatic rebound” should more than keep up with rising sea level.

The next time you are near saltwater take a good look around. You can be guaranteed that the next time you visit, it will be different. The Earth’s climate is changing and Glacier Bay is warming—how will these changes affect you?

<i>Glacier</i>	<i>Height</i> Above and Below Waterline	<i>Width</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Flow Rate</i> (in feet)	<i>Status</i>
Grand Pacific	60-180 feet above 0-60 feet below	2 miles	34.5 miles	1-4 feet / day 350-1,200 feet / year	Slowly Receding/ Thinning
Johns Hopkins	250 feet above 200 feet below	1 mile	12.5 miles	10-15 feet / day 4,000 feet / year	Advancing/ Thickening
Lamplugh	150-180 feet above 10-40 feet below	.75 miles	16 miles	2-3 feet / day 1,200 feet / year	Stable to Receding/ Thinning
Margerie	250 feet above 50-100 feet below	1 mile	21 miles	6-8 feet / day 2,000 feet / year	Stable
McBride	200-250 feet above est. 300 feet below	.5 miles	12 miles	15-20 feet / day 5,000-7,000 feet / year*	Rapidly Receding
Muir	30 feet above 0 feet below	.5 miles	12.5 miles	.5 feet / day 150 feet / year*	Slowly Receding/ Thinning
Reid	>20-130 feet above 0-10 feet below	.75 miles	9.5 miles	1-3 feet / day 800 feet / year*	Slowly Receding/ Thinning
Riggs	20-90 feet above 0 feet below	.75 miles	14.5 miles	1-2 feet / day 600 feet / year*	Slowly Receding/ Thinning

* Estimated figures provided by Dr. Dan Larson of the CRREL.

A Brief Timeline of Glacier Bay

Prehistoric to present: Tlingit Indians and their ancestors had both permanent and seasonal settlements in much of what is now Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Several hundred years ago at the end of the Little Ice Age, advancing glaciers forced the Tlingit people to abandon their villages and move to Hoonah, across Icy Strait from Glacier Bay.

Today, many Huna Tlingits still regard Glacier Bay as their ancestral home, and feel a special connection to it. See page 5.



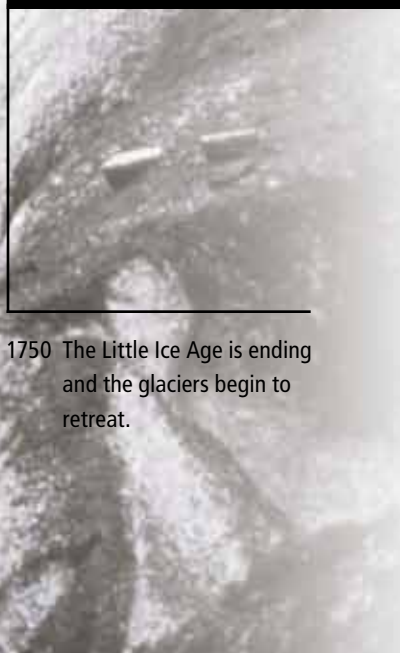
1778 Captain James Cook of the H.M.S. *Resolution* names Mt. Fairweather. His crew includes George Vancouver and William Bligh.

1877 Lieutenant C.E.S. Wood hired Tlingit guides to hunt mountain goats in the St. Elias Mountains. Convinced instead to hunt in Glacier Bay, he encountered Tlingit seal hunters encamped in several places. Wood was the first outsider to record a detailed account of Native life, wildlife and scenery.

1750

1800

1850



1750 The Little Ice Age is ending and the glaciers begin to retreat.

1794 Captain George Vancouver of the H.M.S. *Discovery* and Lt. Joseph Whidbey describe Glacier Bay as "a compact sheet of ice as far as the eye could distinguish." The "bay" is a mere 5-mile indentation in the coastline.

1786 Captain Jean-Francois de Galaup de Lapérouse's party of the *Boussole* and *Astrolabe* while in Lituya Bay described the native peoples they met there, and the cartographers created the first detailed maps of park landforms. The expedition met tragedy on July 13 when 21 sailors were lost in a tidal wave at the mouth of Lituya Bay.



1879 Guided by Tlingit Indians from Fort Wrangell, John Muir enters the bay in a dugout canoe accompanied by a Presbyterian missionary named S. Hall Young. Glacial ice has retreated into the bay 40 miles since 1794.

1890 Muir makes his third visit to Glacier Bay, this time constructing a cabin at the base of Mt. Wright. He makes extensive observations of glaciers and explains the interglacial tree stumps.

1900

1953 Canadian Pacific Steamship Company brings the first modern cruise ships into the area.

1916 William S. Cooper, ecologist from the University of Minnesota, arrives in Glacier Bay to begin a study of plant succession. He returns five more times between 1921 and 1966.

1950

1992 Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve — together with Wrangell/St. Elias National Park (Alaska), Kluane National Park Reserve (Canada) and Tatshenshini-Alsek Provincial Park (Canada) — becomes part of a 24-million-acre World Heritage Site.

1980 The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act is signed into law. Glacier Bay becomes a national park. Preserve lands are added. The new park and preserve total almost 3.3 million acres.

2000

1899 On September 10, a tremendous earthquake centered in Yakutat Bay causes rapid and extensive calving in Glacier Bay, leaving the waters ice-choked and impassable to ships.

1884 Captain Carroll pilots the side-wheel steamer *Ancon* to Muir Glacier, which will become a popular tourist destination until the 1899 earthquake.

1880 Guided by a Tlingit Indian named Tyeen, John Muir and Young return to visit Taylor Bay, Dundas Bay and what will become known as Muir Glacier. Stickeen, a small dog, is part of the expedition.

1939 A presidential proclamation by Franklin Roosevelt doubles the size of Glacier Bay National Monument.

1925 President Coolidge establishes Glacier Bay National Monument on February 26.

1922 Cooper suggests national monument status for Glacier Bay to the Ecological Society of America.

1966 Glacier Bay Lodge opens.

1986 Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, along with Admiralty Island National Monument, is designated an International Biosphere Reserve.

1995 The National Park Service and Huna Tlingits sign a Memorandum of Understanding, establishing a working relationship.

1998-1999 Congress passes legislation regarding the management of commercial fishing activities in Glacier Bay National Park.

2011 About 450,000 people visited Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve.



Kittlitz's Murrelet

Glacier Bay is home to 240 species of birds, but one little seabird has lately been receiving extra attention. The Kittlitz's Murrelet is a small, potato-sized seabird, weighing in at a little more than a half pound (235 g). Found only in Alaska and parts of Russia, it is one of North America's least known bird species. And unlike many other seabirds which nest in large seaside colonies, Kittlitz's murrelets nest alone, on the ground, and far from the sea. Very few nests have ever been found. In Glacier Bay National Park they most often nest on barren gravel slopes near glaciers or on high mountain cliffs as far as 40 miles (64 km) from water. Although these remote nesting sites are relatively free from predators, it takes a tremendous amount of energy to fly back and forth to the nest, so murrelets require feeding areas with abundant small schooling fish, which may be why there are so many in Glacier Bay. Biologists estimate upwards of 15,000 Kittlitz's Murrelets utilize Glacier Bay during the summer. This is approximately 15% of the entire global population, making this perhaps the best place in the world to see this rare seabird.

Nevertheless, this species may be in trouble. Studies have demonstrated that murrelet populations have declined sharply across their range, and although no

one yet knows why, speculated causes of these declines include oil pollution, glacial recession, incidental by-catch in gill-net fisheries, vessel disturbance and reduced availability of forage fish. Because of these declines and their association with glacial habitat, the National Audubon Society lists the Kittlitz's murrelet as one of the top 10 most endangered bird species in the U.S., and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is carefully reviewing their status to determine if they need protection under the Endangered Species Act.

To learn the murrelet's secrets, biologists have embarked on a two-year study to better understand their movements, behavior, and threats in Glacier Bay. Last summer, biologists captured and attached radio transmitters to a small sampling of murrelets. By tracking the birds' travels, surprising high mountain nest areas were located, and major feeding areas were identified. Studying the response of murrelets to vessel disturbance is another important aspect of the study that will continue during the summer of 2012. The more we learn about these secretive birds, the better equipped we will be in helping them in their struggle to survive in a changing world.



Kittlitz's murrelet nesting location June 2011 Glacier Bay.



Kittlitz's murrelet.



You can eavesdrop on live sounds from underwater Glacier Bay at the listening station kiosks at the Visitor Center and Visitor Information Station. You may hear humpback whales, killer whales, harbor seals, wind, rain, or vessel engines. To hear whale sounds recorded in Glacier Bay, you can also visit the park website at www.nps.gov/glba

Whale Acoustics

Have you ever wondered how humpback whales see to find their way around the rich, silty waters of Glacier Bay? In fact, whales rely on their hearing for most tasks where you would use your vision: navigation, finding food, detecting predators, and socializing. Humpback whales make a startling variety of vocalizations and live immersed in natural sounds such as the sizzle of rain hitting the surface of the ocean, the constant hiss of waves breaking, and the calls of killer whales. Research suggests that vessel sounds can be disturbing to whales and prevent them from hearing vocalizations of other whales.

Because the underwater soundscape is so important to whales, park scientists in collaboration with U.S. Navy acousticians have recorded sounds from an underwater microphone (a.k.a. hydrophone) anchored near the entrance to Glacier Bay since May 2000. These recordings help document the extent and effects of human-caused sounds, such as the whine of outboard motors and the throb of cruise ship engines. This study has determined that the underwater Glacier Bay is a much quieter place when vessels are required to travel at 13 knots rather than at 20 knots.

Bartlett Cove Banquet

In summer 2011, Glacier Bay visitors and locals were thrilled at the large number of humpback whales found throughout the bay. Humpbacks seemed to be everywhere and their breathing and splashing could be heard from the shorelines of Bartlett Cove, within the campground, and even from the porch of the Lodge. On a single day in mid-July, park whale biologists documented at least 52 individuals in the Lower Bay, with about 20 of these whales in Bartlett Cove alone! This was the most whale activity ever seen since population monitoring began in 1985. Large flocks of seabirds and many harbor porpoise gorged themselves alongside the whales. This unusually hearty bowl of “life soup” meant that boaters had to be really cautious to avoid disturbing or colliding with the wildlife, but the spectacle was well worth the trip. What was everyone eating? On several occasions,

biologists observed dense schools of small schooling fish boiling at the water’s surface. They were capelin, a small oily, calorie-rich fish that smells like cucumbers.

Overall in 2011, the whale monitoring program identified 230 different whales, including 11 cow/calf pairs, in Glacier Bay and Icy Strait. Since 1985, biologists have identified more than 680 different individuals in the Glacier Bay and Icy Strait area, many return each year, including some with sighting histories that span more than 38 years! Humpbacks are showing steady signs of recovery from commercial whaling that once decimated their populations worldwide. Hunting of humpback whales ceased in the 1960s, and the southeastern Alaska feeding herd is now increasing about 6% annually.



Wildlife Viewing

By Land



Moose
Alces alces

The largest member of the deer family is a recent newcomer to the bay. The first moose was spotted here in the late 1960s. Despite their tremendous size (bulls can weigh

1,600 pounds and cows 1,300 pounds), they can appear and disappear in thick brush with surprising stealth. Moose are usually solitary, except for cows with calves and during the fall rutting season. Cows give birth in the spring to one or two small, reddish calves, though usually no more than one survives. A calf will stay with its mother for two years before the cow drives it off as she prepares to have more young. Their diet includes willow leaves, grasses, herbs, and aquatic vegetation. Only bulls grow antlers.



Porcupine
Erethizon dorsatum

You may find this prickly member of the community high up in a cottonwood tree nibbling tasty tender leaves. Except for their footpads and nose, porcupines are

completely covered with yellowish fur and quills, which are actually modified hairs tipped with barbs. A threatened porcupine will turn its back-end toward the source of trouble to present an intimidating display of quills that firmly suggests the would-be predator reconsider its dinner plans. This large rodent (second largest in North America behind the beaver) performs a broad repertoire of grunts, whimpers, and screams. Listen for them in the evenings “talking” to no one in particular.

Mountain Goats
Oreamnos americanus

Arguably the most dapper of Glacier Bay’s mammals, mountain goats sport thick white coats of hollow hairs (that keep them warm in extreme weather), accented by black horns and hooves.



Goats may have been among the first land animals to recolonize Glacier Bay after the ice retreated, coming over the mountains from Lynn Canal to the east. They are at home on the steep rocky cliffs in the mid-to-upper bay. The special shape and design of their hooves allows them to leap nimbly from ledge to ledge in search of grasses, herbs, and low-growing shrubs. Seen at a distance, they are often mistaken for Dall sheep, which are found in the Interior.

Red Squirrel
Tamiasciurus hudsonicus

If you see a little red flash zipping up a tree trunk or leaping nimbly among the branches, chances are it is a red squirrel. These agile rodents spend their summer preparing for



winter by collecting and storing green spruce cones in their underground caches. Like forest alarms, they chatter unrelentingly when a threat—like you—is near. They are a comedy tour de force when they harvest dandelion seed heads or go out on a limb for a savory green alder cone, and it is worth your time to stop and enjoy.

When the ice retreated in Glacier Bay, it left behind a scoured landscape of rocks and mud. In time, plants returned to the seemingly sterile land. Eventually, animals returned to the land and waters within the bay. Today, a wide variety of creatures call Glacier Bay home for at least part of the year, and the number could grow as more creatures find their way to this evolving landscape. As you explore Bartlett Cove or as you cruise up the bay, keep your eye out for some of these more frequently seen members of the community.

By Sea



Steller Sea Lion

Eumetopias jubatus

Like all members of the eared seal family *Otariidae*, Steller sea lions can support themselves on their flippers while ashore, and their rear flippers pivot, allowing them to get around with surprising speed.

In the water they become fluid, executing a seemingly endless series of underwater flips, turns, and rolls. Mature males can weigh almost 2,000 pounds, but females average only 600 pounds. During mating season, large bulls compete at established rookery sites on Glacier Bay's outer coast to collect harems of females. Unsuccessful and immature males often congregate at haul-out areas like South Marble Island. Though the number of sea lions is growing in the bay, the population in Western Alaska has decreased by 80 percent since the late-1970s leading to that portion of the population's current listing as endangered.

Harbor Seal

Phoca vitulina richardsi

Harbor seals have a dappled gray coat that can be highly variable between individuals. A thick layer of fat allows them to keep warm in otherwise chilling conditions. Unlike the sea lion, harbor seals have no external earflap and when out of the water, cannot support themselves on their flippers. On ice floes, they resemble plump sausages that move around by scooting on their ample bellies. In the water, they display admirable grace as they hunt for fish. Up to 1,700 seals converge on Johns Hopkins Inlet each summer for pupping and mating. Ongoing research in the park indicates that the population in the inlet has declined 75 percent in the past decade.



Harbor Porpoise

Phocoena phocoena

At five feet long and about 120 pounds, harbor porpoise are the smallest cetaceans in Alaska waters. Often seen in groups of two to ten throughout the bay, they

announce themselves by offering a brief glimpse of their small triangular dorsal fin cutting slowly through the water's surface when they come up to catch a breath. Harbor porpoise are generally dark gray with a slightly pointed face. They do not ride bow wakes, like their relative the Dall's porpoise, which are larger (6.4 feet and 300 pounds) and resemble a small orca in their black and white coloration. Though Dall's porpoise can be seen in the bay, they are more often near the entrance and in Icy Strait.

Sea Otter

Enhydra lutris

The sea otter population in the bay has grown from zero to over 4,000 in the last 15 years. Voracious eaters of things like crabs and clams, they exert a strong influence on their environment and scientists anticipate dramatic changes will take place in the underwater world of Glacier Bay. Sea otters perform many of their daily tasks such as eating, bathing, and sleeping while floating on their backs. Lacking a thick layer of blubber, otters instead have the densest fur of any mammal with up to one million hairs per square inch. Generally dark brown, their faces get whiter as they age.



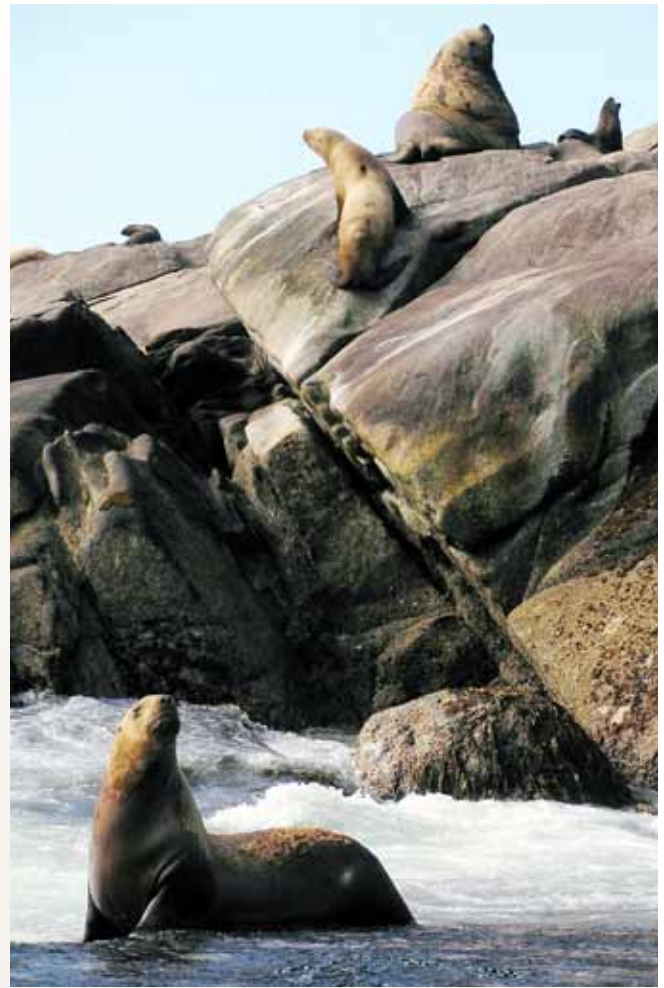
Life's No Picnic

You are picnicking alone on an idyllic beach when a boat roars up out of nowhere. It stops just offshore. Its wake washes the beach, taking away half your lunch. People on the boat laugh and talk loudly. Camera flashes explode. You drop your lunch and dash off into the underbrush.

You've just experienced what happens to wildlife when thoughtlessly approached by humans. The effects can be devastating. Steller sea lions tumble over one another as they stampede from haul-outs to get into the water, risking injury and expending valuable energy. Breeding birds flushed from nests leave eggs vulnerable to cooler temperatures and predators.

To reduce disturbance to wildlife and protect sensitive areas, the park has regulations that define the minimum distance you must keep from animals. During your visit, you can help to protect wildlife by doing the following:

- Know and observe all minimum distances and closures (see page 24).
- When viewing wildlife, approach and depart slowly and cautiously.
- Use binoculars or a telephoto lens so you can view from afar.
- Avoid sudden movements or loud noises.
- Don't approach large rafts of birds or any animals. If an animal changes its behavior because of your presence, you are too close.
- Avoid stressing wildlife. The animals living here are engaged in a daily struggle to find food, shelter, and water necessary for survival.



Harbor Seals Down, Sea Lions Up!

Marine mammals are a highlight of any visit to Glacier Bay, and two of the most notable species are harbor seals and Steller sea lions. Surprisingly, the populations of both have dramatically changed in recent years. While seal numbers have dropped by over 75% in the last 20 years, sea lions have actually increased by over 8% each year with the most rapid increase found at South Marble Island. Visitors in the 1980s would have been lucky to spot 150, while most trips to the island this summer will yield sightings of over 1,000. This represents the most rapid growth of the species throughout its entire range. Steller sea lions elsewhere in Alaska are not faring as well and they remain on the state endangered species list. It is currently unknown if there is a relationship between the contrasting trajectories of these two species. What is known is that wherever we look, we continue to find examples of the dynamic and everchanging nature of Glacier Bay.



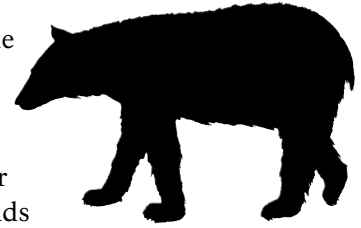
Bears

Glacier Bay National Park is home to brown (grizzly) bears, *Ursus arctos*, and black bears, *Ursus americanus*. Black bears are found primarily in the forested regions near the mouth of the bay, including Bartlett Cove, while brown bears live mainly in the more open regions closer to the glaciers.

Telling the difference between the two species can be tricky. Simply looking at color doesn't help. Black bears can be black, brown, blonde, even blue-gray—as is the case of the rare color phase found in Southeast Alaska called the “glacier bear.” Brown bears can be any shade from honey blonde to black. A few key physical characteristics can help clarify which type of bear you have spotted:

Black Bears

- Straight facial profile
- No shoulder hump
- Prominent ears
- Short, curved claws
- 3 feet at the shoulder
- 125 to over 300 pounds



Brown Bears (also called “grizzlies”)

- “Dish-shaped” facial profile
- Prominent shoulder hump
- Long, straight claws
- 3.5 feet at the shoulder/up to 9 feet when standing on hind legs
- Average 500 to 1000 pounds



Where the Wild Things Are



Rugged terrain, high mountains, open water, and a long history of glaciation have greatly influenced the distribution of Glacier Bay land animals.

Recently, park

bear biologists have been mapping the distribution of black and brown bears along Glacier Bay's shorelines. Through direct observation, track surveys, and DNA sampling of bear hair, the patterns of Glacier Bay bears are now being revealed. Results show that black bears are intimately linked to the dense forests of the lower bay but that brown bears can be found virtually anywhere in Glacier Bay. Their sign was documented at every single study site. This finding was reinforced over the last two summers with regular brown bear sightings along the Bartlett River, in Bartlett Cove, and even around Gustavus.

Studying the DNA from brown bear hair is also revealing their genetics and the level of mixing between different areas. Extensive waterways and coastal mountains have shaped how Glacier Bay was re-colonized by brown bears. There is evidence that the majority of brown bear immigrants, including the original colonizers, came from the east. Furthermore,

bears found here are split neatly into eastern and western subpopulations by the wide entrance of the bay, but the brown bears in the upper west arm of Glacier Bay form a unique biological population where bears from east and west mix. Future investigations and collaboration may even provide insight into how the bears in Glacier Bay are related to bears from other parts of Southeast Alaska.



Fishing the Bartlett River

- Harvested fish must be kept within 3 feet of person.
- All harvested fish must be packed out whole, except for gills and entrails.
- If a bear approaches while you have fish on the line, cut the line.
- Never yield your catch or other food items.





Bears

Be Bear Savvy

While walking, hiking or camping in Glacier Bay, you may encounter a bear. The vast majority of these encounters do not result in human injury or property damage. You can help prevent injury to yourself or to the bear by taking a few basic precautions.

- Be alert.
- Be aware of what goes on around your campsite.
- Make noise, especially in wind or near rushing water.
- Choose routes that offer good visibility.
- Travel in groups of two or more.
- Keep your personal items and food within reach.
- Do not pursue or approach bears for photographs.
- Avoid streams with spawning fish.

Be a Smart Camper

Both campers and bears frequent the beaches of Glacier Bay. Bears only have six to eight months to acquire the calories and fat reserves needed for the entire year, and the shoreline is essential for food and travel. The following guidelines will minimize your disruption of bears and help keep them wild.

Cooking and storing food

- Cook and eat in the intertidal zone at least 100 yards from your tent and food storage area.
- Wash cooking gear in marine waters.
- Be prepared to quickly stow all food should a bear suddenly approach.
- Keep all food, trash, and other scented items in a bear-resistant food container (BRFC).
- At night, store BRFCs and clean cooking gear in brush or behind rocks away from animal trails 100 yards from camp, not in your boat.

Choosing a campsite

- Avoid areas with bear sign including an abundance of scat, animal trails, and chewed or clawed trees.
- Avoid active salmon streams.
- Store your kayak and pitch your tent clear of the beach.
- Select a site that would allow bears room to pass at high tide.

Control your gear

- Keep gear together. The more spread out your gear is the more difficult it is to defend.
- To minimize potential bear damage to gear, consider breaking down your campsite daily.

When encountering humans, most bears will run away, approach curiously, appear to ignore the situation or act defensively. By staying alert, calm, and tailoring your reaction to the bear's behavior and species, you increase the odds of a positive outcome for both you and the bear.



If You See a Bear

The Bear	What You Can Do	
May or may not be aware of you	<p><i>What is your activity and degree of mobility?</i></p> <p><i>You are hiking or kayaking (mobile):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change your course to avoid bear. • Monitor bear's movement. • If bear is close, talk calmly to avoid surprising it. 	<p><i>You are camping or eating (not mobile):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep all gear under direct control. • Group together without blocking bear's route. • Talk calmly to make bear aware of you. • Stand your ground.
Moves toward you	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor bear's movement. • Stand your ground and talk calmly. • Allow bear to pass peacefully. 	
Becomes focused on you	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay together and stand your ground. • Be assertive and elevate your defense: clap your hands, wave your arms, use noisemakers, such as air horns or bang pots together. 	
Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to stand your ground and look big. • Use pepper spray if you have it. • Few charges end in contact. 	
If a bear makes contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fight back vigorously. • This is likely a predatory attack. 	
Enters your tent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fight back. 	

If You Surprise a Bear

The Bear	What You Can Do
May react defensively and may snort, huff, pop its jaw, or charge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand your ground and talk calmly to the bear. • Attempt to move away slowly.
Begins to follow you	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stand your ground.
Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use pepper spray.
Is a brown bear and makes contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play dead—lie flat, face down on the ground, and lace your fingers behind your head. Do not move.
Is a black bear and makes contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fight back vigorously. • This is likely a predatory attack.



Park Information

Welcome to Glacier Bay

If you intend to camp or boat during your visit, your first stop should be at the Visitor Information Station (VIS) near the public dock. During the summer, a free permit is required for all boating and overnight camping. Orientations, provided with the permit, are required annually for all campers and skippers. They cover the following: rules and regulations, resource concerns, safety issues, and tides. Backcountry campers can also check out bear-resistant food containers (BRFC) to use free of charge during their visit.

We want you to make the most of your visit, and we want to make sure you do it safely and with minimum impact, so others who follow will be able to enjoy the wildness this land can offer. It is your responsibility to know and obey the rules and regulations of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. If you have any questions, please ask a ranger.

Hypothermia—Killer Cold

In the backcountry, good rain gear is a must. Staying dry will help you stay warm as wet clothing can wick away body heat and lead to hypothermia—the lowering of the body’s core temperature. Hypothermia can kill. Prevention and early recognition are vital to safe camping. A victim of hypothermia may not realize his or her condition, and will often deny being cold or needing help.

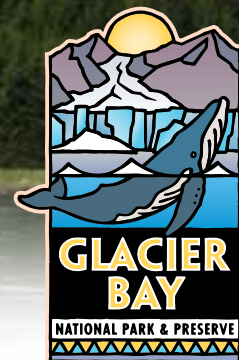
Early Symptoms: Violent shivering, changes in mood or consciousness, irritability, cool, pale skin, slow or weak pulse, slow, shallow breathing.

Advanced Symptoms: Absence of shivering, unconsciousness.

Treatment: Prevent further heat loss. Provide shelter from cold, rain, wet ground, and wind. Replace wet clothing with dry synthetic clothing. Techniques to stay warm include:

- Wrap patient in space blanket, sleeping bag, or ground cloth.
- Wrap warm water bottles in cloth and place in the sleeping bag with patient.
- Provide close contact with another warm person.
- Build a fire.
- Feed patient sugars, carbohydrates, or sweet warm drinks.
- Keep patient awake.

DO NOT: Give alcohol. Rub or massage affected area. Expose to excessive heat.



Park Regulations

The following is a partial listing of laws and regulations designed to help you have a safe, enjoyable visit while protecting park resources. For further information or questions on additional regulations, please ask a park ranger.

Feeding Wildlife is prohibited. All food, fish, garbage, and equipment used to cook or store food must be cached in a sealed motor vehicle, vessel (excluding kayaks), building, BRFC, designated trash receptacle, or designated food cache.

Firearms are prohibited in federal facilities. Special regulations apply when carrying firearms within Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Please contact the Visitor Information Station at Bartlett Cove at 907-697-2627 for further guidance.

Hunting is only permitted on the preserve lands in the Dry Bay area. All persons 16 years and older are required to hold a valid Alaska State Hunting License.

Harvesting the following for personal consumption or use is allowed: unoccupied seashells, all edible berries and fruits, edible mushrooms, clams and mollusks. State regulations apply. NOTE: Eating clams and mussels from Glacier Bay is not recommended because of the presence of a naturally occurring neurotoxin that causes paralytic shellfish poisoning in humans and can lead to sudden death.

Pets are allowed in the developed areas of Bartlett Cove and must be on a leash at all times. Pets are NOT permitted on the Forest Loop or Bartlett River trails. No pets are allowed onshore in the backcountry.

Sport Fishing by all persons 16 years and older requires a valid Alaska State Fishing License, available during the summer months at Glacier Bay Lodge and some businesses in Gustavus. Consult Alaska State Fishing regulations when purchasing a license.

For Your Safety

You are in an isolated area. The closest hospital or trauma facility is in Juneau, 30 minutes by air. Weather conditions may delay medical evacuations or other emergency transport, sometimes for days. To help ensure you have a safe visit, use caution.

- Respect boundaries, especially around construction zones.
- Watch for traffic on docks, roadways, and in parking lots.
- Report any hazardous situations to the Visitor Information Station.
- Even for short excursions, always let someone know where you are going and what time you plan to be back, then stick to your plan.

Boating Essentials

Permits

- Are required for private motor vessels from June 1 through August 31.
- Are free and good for seven consecutive days.
- Must be confirmed 48 hours before scheduled entry date or permit will be cancelled.

To confirm permits or to see if permits are available, call the Visitor Information Station “KWM20 Bartlett Cove” on marine band 16 or phone 907-697-2627. Permit applications are accepted 60 days before the intended entry date and are available at www.nps.gov/glba

Docks

Bartlett Cove Dock:

- Vessels may dock for a maximum of 3 hours in a 24-hour period. After that, anchor out beyond the white “no wake” buoys.
- Dinghies 10 feet or less may dock in the designated area for up to 24 hours.
- Do not leave vehicles or equipment unattended on docks.
- Use only slips designated for your use. See dock bulletin board.

Fuel Dock:

- Do not leave vessels unattended at the Fuel Dock.
- For hours, call Glacier Bay Lodge on marine band 16 or phone 907-697-4000.
- Access to shore via the fuel dock is not permitted.

Anchorage

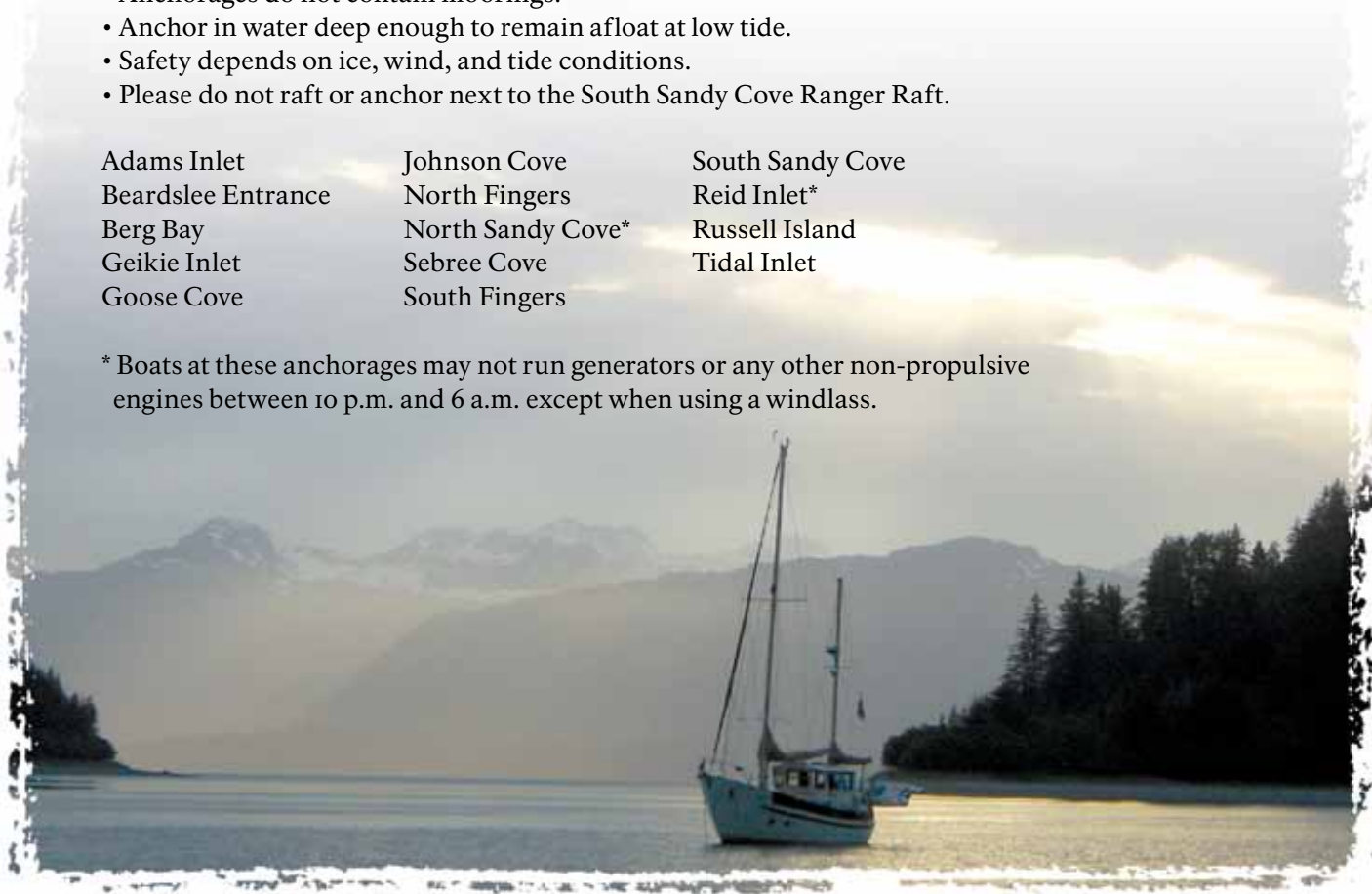
- Anchorages do not contain moorings.
- Anchor in water deep enough to remain afloat at low tide.
- Safety depends on ice, wind, and tide conditions.
- Please do not raft or anchor next to the South Sandy Cove Ranger Raft.

Adams Inlet
Beardslee Entrance
Berg Bay
Geikie Inlet
Goose Cove

Johnson Cove
North Fingers
North Sandy Cove*
Sebree Cove
South Fingers

South Sandy Cove
Reid Inlet*
Russell Island
Tidal Inlet

* Boats at these anchorages may not run generators or any other non-propulsive engines between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. except when using a windlass.



Hazards

Closures: Due to animal activity or resource protection, certain areas are off limits to entry and landings for all or part of the year. In summer, some areas are off limits to motorized vessels—including sailing vessels with auxiliary motorized propulsion, even if not in use. Know and obey all closures. See Boating Guide, page 24.

Cruise Ships: No more than 2 cruise ships are permitted in the park per day. These large vessels cannot turn quickly and may take miles to stop. Do not approach them when they are stationary in front of the glaciers. Do not get in their path and do not assume they see you. Watch for large wakes, the waves of which can reach the beach over 10 minutes after the ship has passed.

Currents & Winds: Currents of 6 to 8 knots are not uncommon. Traveling with the tides, rather than against them, can help you ride or paddle easier and quicker.

Caution: The forces of tides, currents, and wind can combine in certain places to create dangerous conditions. Use caution in Sitakaday Narrows, Beardslee Entrance, McBride Entrance, Berg Bay, and the north shore of Adams Inlet. Plan crossings of wide channels carefully. Better to change your route or wait for conditions to subside than to risk flipping your boat.

Ice: Glaciers can calve from above and below the waterline. Underwater tongues of ice can break off and shoot to the surface. We do not recommend approaching tidewater glaciers closer than 1/4 mile.

Tides: Secure boats and gear well above high tide line. Beware of extreme spring tides.

Landslides: Many of Glacier Bay's steep mountainsides are unstable. Landslides may occur at any time, potentially resulting in large waves in narrow inlets and along shorelines. Ask a ranger for more information.

Weather: Mid-May through September, weather forecasts and satellite images are posted daily at the Visitor Information Station bulletin board. Rangers broadcast the marine forecast and other important notices over marine band 16 at approximately 8:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. daily.



Maps and Charts

Topographic Maps:
Trails Illustrated Map by National Geographic 1:250,000
USGS Quadrangles 1:63,360

Nautical Charts:
17300 Stephens Passage to Cross Sound
17318 Glacier Bay
17302 Icy Strait and Cross Sound
17301 Cape Spencer to Icy Point
16762 Lituya Bay

To order maps and charts contact:
Alaska Geographic
P.O. Box 140
Gustavus, AK 99826
907-697-2635

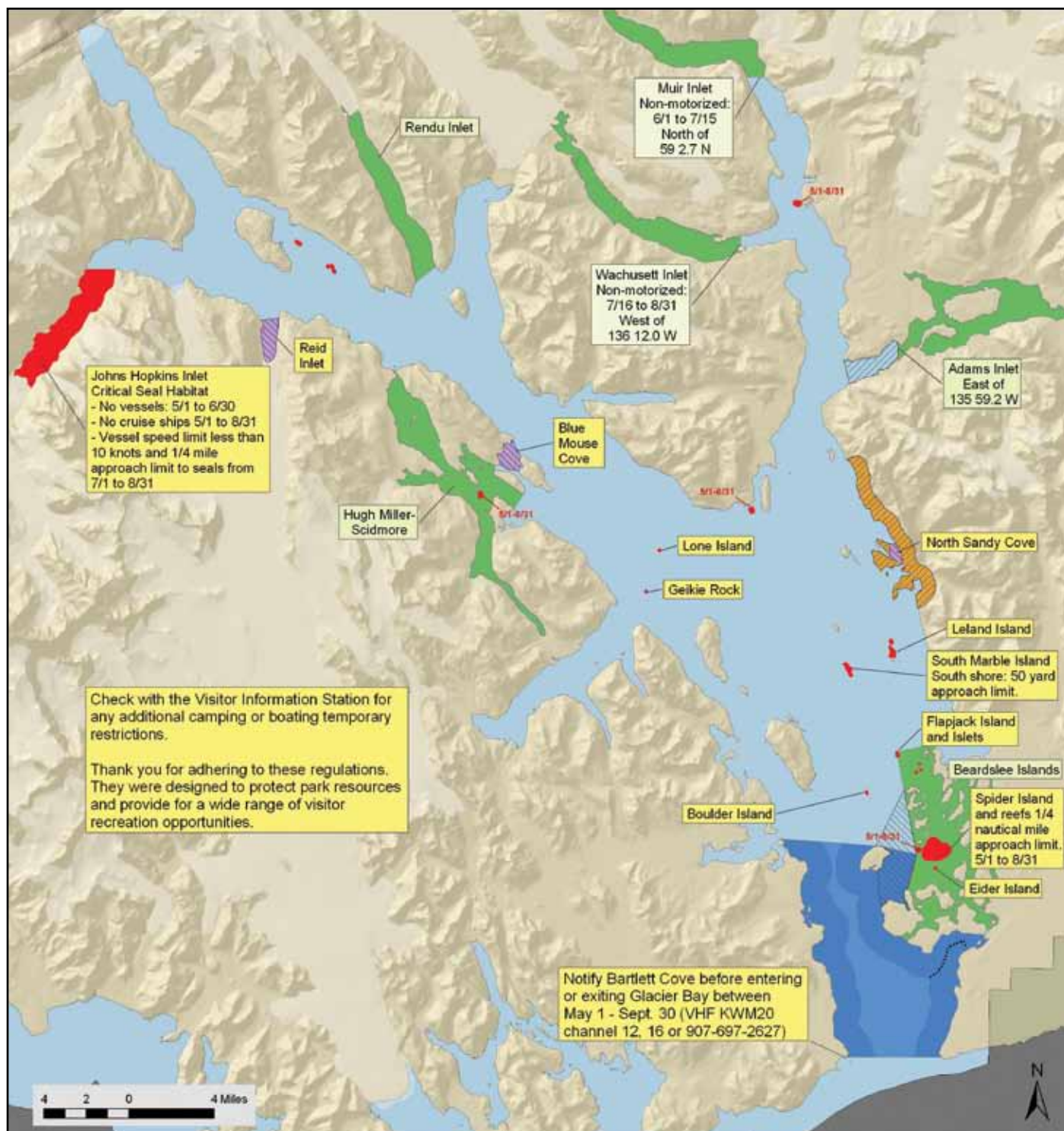
Emergency

Call rangers "KWM20 Bartlett Cove" on marine band 16. NOTE: radio coverage in the bay is spotty and cell phone coverage is nonexistent.

If you have no radio, wave a large brightly colored item toward a passing boat. Tie this item to a stick, oar, or kayak paddle for greater visibility.

Report all emergencies to the Visitor Information Station near the public dock.

Boating Guide



- Non-motorized waters: 5/1 to 9/15 except as noted.
- Critical wildlife areas: year round closure except as noted. Approach no closer than 100 yards except as noted.
- Noise restrictions: 10:00 pm to 6:00 am from 6/1 to 8/31.
- Overnight camping closures: 5/1 to 8/15 due to high bear concentrations.
- Park waters

Whale Waters

Vessel course and speed restrictions apply:

May 15 - Sept. 30

Darker blue shows 1 nautical mile shoreline approach limit. Dashed line shows required mid channel course.

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve

Please contact the Visitor Information Station for more information on boating in Glacier Bay.
<http://www.nps.gov/glb>
907-697-2627

Cruise Ship and Tour Boats Prohibited from Operation

- Adams Inlet Entrance
- Beardslee Island Entrance

Whale Watching

To minimize disturbance to endangered humpback whales, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve has developed some of the most protective boating rules visitors will find anywhere. Because the park's mission is to protect and preserve these magnificent creatures, we maintain strict operating and speed restrictions in critical whale habitat.

Rules for All National Park Waters

All vessels, including kayaks, must not:

- Operate within 1/4 nautical mile of a humpback whale.
- Pursue a humpback whale 1/2 nautical mile by altering course or speed in a manner that results in decreasing the distance between the whale and the vessel.

What do you do if a whale suddenly appears in front of you? If your vessel is accidentally positioned within a 1/4 nautical mile of a humpback whale, immediately slow your vessel to ten knots or less. Don't shift into reverse unless impact is likely. Then, carefully direct or maintain your course away from the whale until at least 1/4 nautical mile separation exists.

Whale Waters

These are special areas in Glacier Bay that require additional speed and operating restrictions. These critical areas change depending on current whale activity in the bay. See Boating Guide on page 24 for areas and dates that regulations are in effect and check at the VIS for additional temporary restrictions before setting out.

Rules for Lower Glacier Bay Whale Waters (May 15-Sept 30)

All vessels must operate within speed restrictions. Check at the VIS for current status. Motorized vessels over 18 feet in length must:

- Maintain a distance of at least one mile from shore. In narrower areas, navigate a mid-channel course (unless fishing or operating solely under sail).
- Approach or land on shore perpendicularly, taking the most direct line to shore.
 - Watch for additional whale waters designations in other areas. Check at the VIS for current whale waters boundaries and regulations.



Camping Information



In the Backcountry

A free permit is required between May 1 and September 30. Certain parts of the bay are closed to campers either permanently or temporarily due to animal activity and resource protection. Ask a ranger about any current advisories.

Take care of your park. By practicing “Leave No Trace,” we help to ensure that future generations can enjoy Glacier Bay in the same condition as it is today.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Do not camp within 100 feet of a stream or lake.
- Leave your campsite as natural as you found it.
- A good campsite is FOUND and not MADE.

Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack it in—pack it out.
- Keep all trash in a bear canister.
- Within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of shoreline, either remove human waste as trash or deposit at least 100 feet from any surface freshwater source in a hole dug at least 6 inches deep.
- Beyond $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of shoreline, deposit human waste at least 100 feet from water sources, campsites, or within sight of trails.
- Toilet paper must be burned or carried out.

Leave What You Find

- You may only collect unoccupied shells, and berries or plants that will be personally consumed.
- Collection of rocks, flowers, or artifacts is not allowed.
- Take only pictures.

Minimize Your Campfire

- Avoid the need for a campfire. Use a cook stove.
- Campfires are permitted below the high tide line. Break up any campfire rings before leaving the site.
- Burn only dead and downed wood. Do not burn interglacial wood, which comes from the exposed remnants of ancient forests found on certain beaches within the bay. Ask a ranger for details.

Be Considerate of Others

- Avoid camping near other parties.
- Keep your camp and activities as inconspicuous as possible.
- Groups larger than 12 are not allowed.

Respect Wildlife

- Choose a campsite that shows few signs of wildlife.
- Watch carefully for and avoid ground nesting birds.
- Cook and eat in the intertidal zone at least 100 yards from your campsite.
- Never leave food unattended.
- Store all food and scented items in a bear canister in brush or behind rocks at least 100 yards from camp, not in your boat or kayak.
- In the campground, store all food and scented items in the cache provided. Never eat or cook in the campground or warming shelter.

✓ Check In

If you fail to check in as scheduled, rangers will begin to search for you starting with the areas indicated on your permit.



Bartlett Cove Campground

A free, walk-in tent campground is located at Bartlett Cove. You must register for a site at the Visitor Information Station (VIS). Wheelbarrows are available to help haul gear between the VIS, dock, and campground. Please observe the following:

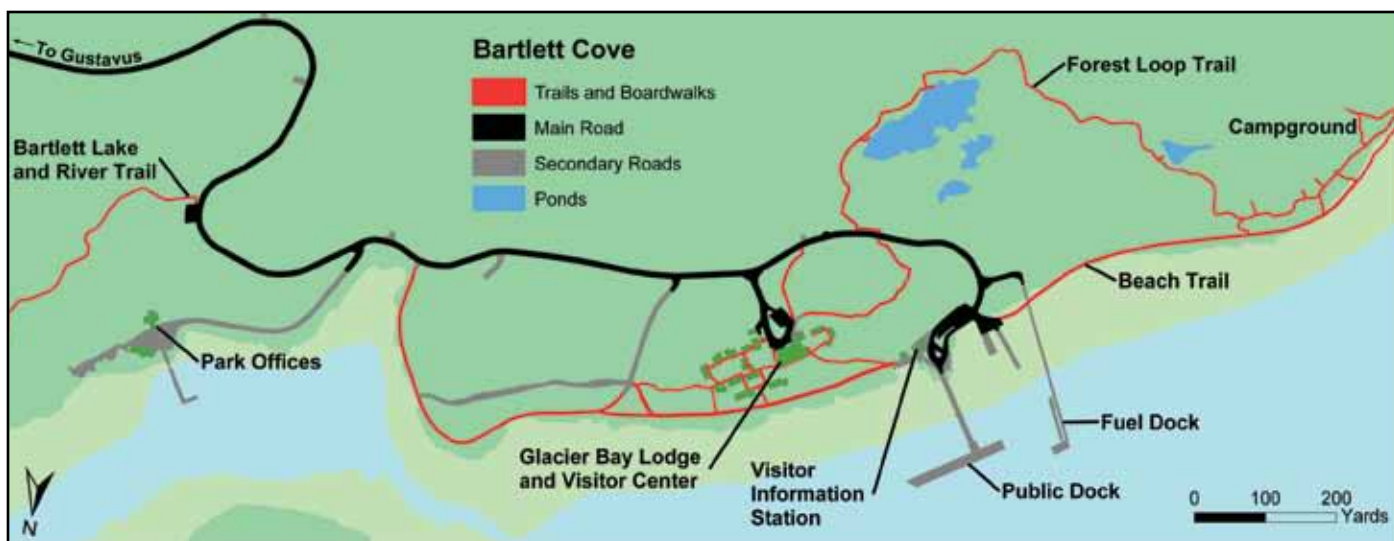
- Store all food, trash, and scented items in the caches provided in the campground.
- Cook, prepare, and eat food only in the intertidal zone next to the campground.
- Dispose of waste into appropriate bins near the VIS.
- Fires are permitted only in the designated campground beach fire ring.

Arriving on the Ferry?

Since 2011, the Alaska Marine Highway ferry system has provided regular service from Juneau.

Although this new option affords both visitors and residents many new opportunities, it may take time for the park and community to fully adapt. If visiting with a personal vehicle, you may not yet find all the services and amenities one might expect in other road-linked Alaska communities. If arriving with a vehicle be aware that:

- Glacier Bay National Park is essentially roadless. Bartlett Cove is accessible by vehicle from Gustavus, but all other areas may only be reached on foot, by boat, or small aircraft.
- National Park facilities in Bartlett Cove were not designed to accommodate visitors with private vehicles and parking may be limited.
- There is one primitive campground in the park. It is accessible on foot only.
- There are no RV facilities (*dump station/hookups/etc.*) in the park.
- For the latest updates on park facilities call 907-697-2230 or visit www.nps.gov/glba
- There are various lodging and other services available in Gustavus. For more specific information please contact the Gustavus Visitors Association at 907-697-2454 or www.gustavusak.com



These Boots Were Made for Walking

You've probably done a fair bit of traveling to get here and may have a hankering to stretch your legs. There are three maintained trails near the Glacier Bay Lodge. All offer relatively easy walking.

Forest Loop Trail

Distance: 1 mile loop

Time: 30 min.-1.5 hours

Takes you through both the temperate rainforest and the beach environments of Bartlett Cove. Begin your walk either in front of the lodge (just off the parking lot) or south of the boat ramp between the

docks. The trail surface varies between dirt, gravel, and boardwalk. Two benches and viewing platforms along the way beg you to pause and take in the sights and sounds of the spruce/hemlock forest. Rangers lead a guided walk along this trail every afternoon. Check the posted activity schedule for times.

Bartlett River Trail

Distance: 4 miles roundtrip

Time: 4-5 hours

Meanders along an intertidal lagoon and through the spruce/hemlock forest before emerging and ending at the Bartlett River estuary. Watch for coyotes, moose, bear, and river otter along the beach. Ducks, geese, and other water birds concentrate in the intertidal area during migrations and molting. Salmon run up the river in the latter part of the summer, which attract hungry harbor seals.

Bartlett Lake Trail

Distance: 8 miles roundtrip

Time: 7-8 hours

Begin walking on the Bartlett River Trail. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile down the trail at a signpost, the lake trail will branch off and begin to climb the moraine. This trail is less maintained so use caution to not lose the route. The chatter of red squirrels will accompany you as you wind your way over and around moss-covered boulders and lichen-covered trees before reaching the shores of Bartlett Lake. During this full-day journey, you may be richly rewarded in solitude and perhaps even the call of loons. Bring water, lunch, and rain gear.



Beach Walking

Many gulls and shorebirds raise their young on the shorelines of Glacier Bay. If you plan to camp or hike along the beaches, you will most likely meet nesting birds. Nests and young birds along the shoreline can be very difficult to spot but the behavior of the adult birds can warn you that you are too close.

Gulls and terns defend nests and young by circling and diving down on intruders while calling or crying. Shorebirds may defend their nest sites by



calling loudly, creeping along pretending to be injured, or fluttering and crouching in front of you.

If you come across birds acting as if they have a nest or young nearby, back away looking where you step until the birds stop reacting to you.

Beach Walk

The long stretch of shoreline south of the docks allows for a pleasant stroll. Low tide reveals a myriad of intertidal life. (Please walk carefully!) It's a terrific place to see land, shore, and sea birds. Free tide tables are available at the NPS Information Desk in the lodge and at the Visitor Information Station near the public-use dock.



Let Someone Know

No matter where you walk, always let someone know where you are going and what time you expect to be back.

A Slip of the Foot

Due to the amount of moisture here in Glacier Bay, walking can be tricky. Wet decks, wooden walkways, logs, rocks, and tree roots can be very slippery and create tripping hazards. Muddy pathways can be slick. To minimize risk, wear sturdy shoes with good traction and use handrails wherever available. Watch where you are stepping and take your time!

Moose Musts

To avoid close encounters, make noise while hiking. If you do encounter a moose, use caution:

- Increase the distance between you and the moose.
- Get behind a tree.
- Change your route.



Park Partners

As the official nonprofit education partner of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Alaska Geographic connects people to Alaska's magnificent wildlands through experiential education, award-winning books and maps, and by directly supporting the state's parks, forests, and refuges. Over the past 50 years, Alaska Geographic has donated more than \$20 million to help fund educational and interpretive programs throughout Alaska's public lands.

Alaska Geographic operates bookstores across the state, including several locations in Glacier Bay: the park visitor center in Bartlett Cove, ranger district office in Yakutat, and on board the dozens of cruise ships that visit the area each year. Your purchases at these locations directly support Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve—a portion of every sale helps fund the park's educational and interpretive programs.

To find out more, become a member, or browse our selection of Alaska books, maps, and films, stop by any Alaska Geographic bookstore or visit our website at www.alaskageographic.org



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Discover Alaska Collector Series
Pins, patches, hats, and other products featuring
this unique Glacier Bay design. Exclusively from
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Planning Your Trip

Visit the Alaska Geographic bookstore at the park visitor center in Bartlett Cove to find the best books, maps, films, and gifts related to the natural and cultural history of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve.



Glacier Bay: Beneath the Reflections

By the National Park Service

Explore the strange and fascinating underwater world of Glacier Bay in this award-winning film. As a bonus, the DVD includes the park's classic film, *Forever Wild*.

\$9.95



Glacier Bay National Park Map

National Geographic

This comprehensive map of the entire park indicates access points, water depths, campgrounds, hiking trails, and other recreational opportunities.

\$11.95



Glacier Bay National Park Alaska

By Mark Kelley & Sherry Simpson

Breathtaking photographs and insightful essays tell the fascinating story of the park's history, glaciers, wildlife, and plants.

\$22.95



Sculpted by Ice: Glaciers and the Alaska Landscape

By Michael Collier

Let geologist and photographer Michael Collier guide you through Glacier Bay's fascinating terrain and geologic time. Incomparable photographs illustrate this informative and award-winning book.

\$19.95

Also available online at www.alaskageographic.org

Kids Love Glacier Bay!

There are millions of acres of mountains, waterways, glaciers, wildlife, history, and adventure to discover. Would you like to experience and learn more about Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve? After all, there will be a time in the not-too-distant future when you will step in to take care of this park for future generations. Why not learn more now?

Are you ready to begin your Junior Ranger adventure? If you are between the ages of 2 to 200, you may want to become a Junior Ranger during your visit. There are many ways to pick up your Junior Ranger Activity Booklet.



If you came by plane or boat to Bartlett Cove, stop by the Visitor Center on the second floor of the Glacier Bay Lodge.



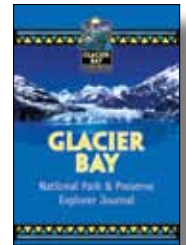
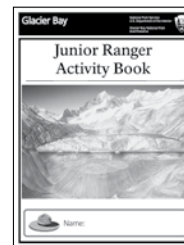
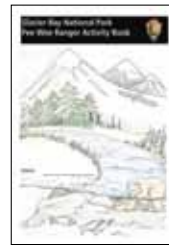
If you are on a tour boat, meet with the ranger on board.



If you are a virtual visitor, you can visit the park website at www.nps.gov/glbs and print off your own booklet and get started.

Ask a ranger about family-friendly guided ranger programs and activities in Bartlett Cove and check the schedule for our summer Discovery Days series for kids.

Glacier Bay offers three different booklets, depending on your age.



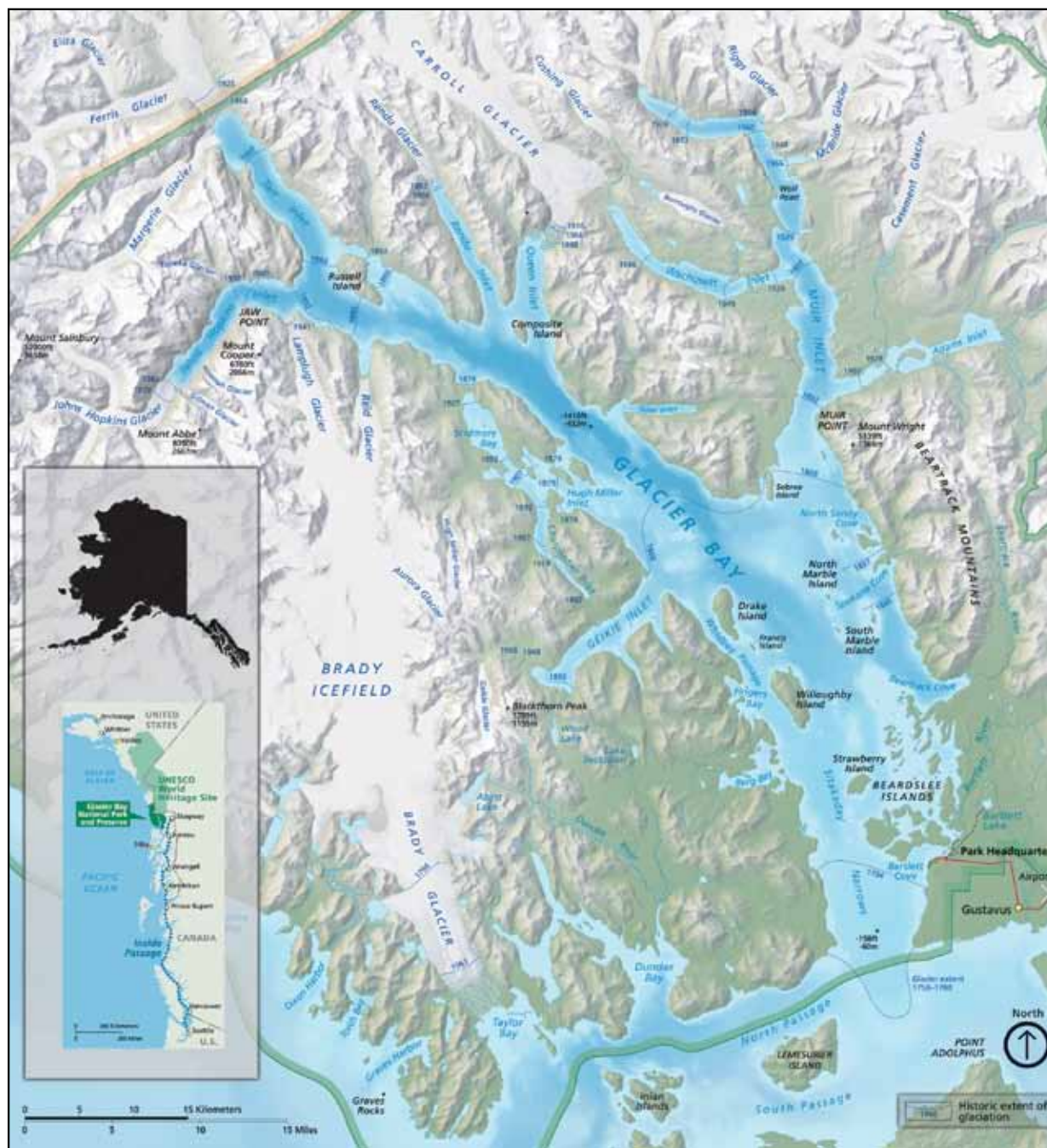
For children between the ages of 2 - 6, we have the *PeeWee Ranger Activity Book*.

For children between the ages of 6 - 12, pick up the *Junior Ranger Activity Book*.

For people between the ages of 13 - adult, pick up the *Explorer Journal*.

When you have completed the activities, bring your booklet to a ranger and you will be awarded a special badge that makes you a Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve Junior Ranger.





For More Information

Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
P.O. Box 140
Gustavus, AK 99826
907-697-2619
www.nps.gov/glba

Follow us on 
www.twitter.com/GlacierBayNPS

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facebook.com/GlacierBayNationalPark

Emergency and Medical Assistance

Emergency Inside the Park
National Park Service Bartlett Cove
907-697-2651 (24-hour)
KWM20 Bartlett Cove on marine band 16

Emergency Outside the Park
Gustavus Emergency Response
Dial 911

Other Medical Assistance
Gustavus Community Clinic
42 Dolly Varden Lane, Gustavus
907-697-3008